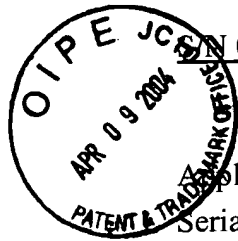


**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE – EXAMINING GROUP 1652**



09/645706

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:	Keith V. Wood et al.	Examiner:	Rebecca E. Prouty
Serial No.:	09/645706	Group Art Unit:	1652
Filed:	August 24, 2000	Docket No.:	341.005US1
Title:	SYNTHETIC NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULE COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS OF PREPARATION		

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**AMENDMENT & RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In response to the Final Office Action mailed January 6, 2004, please amend the application as follows: